

The Radical.

"OUR COUNTRY AND OUR COUNTRY'S WEAL."

BY I. ADAMS.]

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"The great Day of the Lord is near, is at hand, and HASTENETH GREATLY."—Zeph. i. 18.

A CLUE TO THE TIME.

BY LEWIS HERSEY.

The great God hath showed us, by his servant the prophet Daniel, that there shall arise five great kingdoms to the supremacy in this world; and that the four first shall be earthly, sensual, devilish; that they will tread upon and persecute the subjects preparing for the fifth kingdom during their whole existence, down to the time that the King of the fifth kingdom shall come, on his "white horse," with "many crowns" on his head, followed with the armies of heaven, also on "white horses," and "miserably destroy those wicked men, and let out his vineyard to others;" and "bind the strong man [Satan] and spoil his goods;" purify and make new the earth, raise and glorify the bodies of all his subjects, and thus set up his everlasting kingdom over the whole earth. Thus "shall the righteous inherit the land and dwell therein forever;" thus "shall the righteous never be removed, and the wicked not inhabit the earth."

We will begin our investigation with Daniel ii. 31. Here we cannot fail to perceive, in his explanations of the king's dream, the four earthly kingdoms, and that the last, which was the Roman, should be divided into ten, signified by the toes of the image; and in verse 44 we read, "In the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed; and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand forever." This clearly shows us that when the stone strikes the image and breaks it to pieces, and the wind carries it away like the chaff of the summer threshing-floor, then the stone becomes a great mountain, or kingdom, and fills the whole earth. If there is a doubt on the mind of any that this vision brings us down to the judgment, let us turn over to the seventh chapter and see what that will teach us.

In the first seven verses we perceive the four great beasts represent the same four great kingdoms that the four metals of the image did in the second chapter; the division of the last, or Roman, into ten, signified by the ten horns, the same as the toes of the image; but now in the eighth verse, while Daniel was considering, he saw the little horn making its way up among the ten, pushing out one, and another, and another, by the roots, with its eyes, a most beautiful representation of the rise and establishment of Papacy. But now in the 9th and 10th verses, blessed be God, the Ancient of Days is seen coming, on his throne of fiery flame, propelled on wheels of burning fire, with a fiery stream issuing and coming forth from before him, with the fifth kingdom with him; for let us take notice that John, in Rev. vi. 10th and 11th verses, has the same

ten thousand times ten thousand, and thousands of thousands, who say of themselves "that they shall reign on the earth." And, says Daniel, "the judgment was set, and the books were opened." Query. Does Daniel's vision include the judgment?—Daniel beheld still further, till he saw the beast slain, and his body given to the burning flame, the Son of man coming with the clouds of heaven, and receiving his "dominion and glory and kingdom." Now what says Daniel in the 16th verse? "So he told me, and make me know the interpretations of the things;" and in the 17th and 18th verses are comprised the whole vision of the five kingdoms; and if eternity is not stamped on the fifth, then no words can express it. Again, says Daniel in the 21st and 22d verses, "I beheld, and the same horn made war with the saints, and prevailed against them; until the Ancient of Days came, and judgment was given to the saints of the Most High; and the time came that the saints possessed the kingdom." Query. Where is any room for a millennium before the judgment? And in the further explanations in this chapter, the whole is gone over again, with a minuteness equalled only by the grandeur of the subject, and winds up with that glorious, soul-cheering promise, "and the kingdom, and dominion, and the greatness of the kingdom under the whole heaven, shall be given to the people of the saints of the Most High."

Now let us look at the eighth chapter. We see in the first verse that this vision is after, or like the one we have been considering in the preceding chapter, with the exception of the Babylonish empire, and begins with the Persian. Then follows the Grecian; and in the 5th verse he notices the changes in that empire. In the 9th verse he introduces the little horn, Papacy, again, and delineates his character and works so clearly, that it is not easily evaded; and in the angel's further description of this wonderful little horn, in the 23d, 24th, and 25th verses, we see the identical same personage as was brought to our view in the seventh chapter, and his end, by being broken without hand. That this will not be till the stone strikes the image, is certain from the whole tenor of the seventh chapter, as well as the account Paul gives us of his end in 2 Thess. ii. 8: "Whom the Lord shall destroy with the brightness of his coming." Now is it not reasonable that Daniel would wish to know how long this vision, which he had at three different times, and all bring him down to the day of judgment, would be? Now look at the question in the 13th verse.—"How long shall be the vision?"—The answer is in the next verse, "unto 2300 days; then shall the sanctuary be cleansed." This must be the time that Malachi speaks of, when it shall burn as an oven; when all the wicked shall be burned to ashes; when he shall send forth his angels, and gather out of his kingdom all that offend; and when he gathers the tares in bundles to burn. But now, when Daniel sought for the meaning, as is said in the 15th verse, he heard a man's voice, which called and said, "Gabriel, make this man to understand the vision." And he came, and stood, and said unto me, Understand, O son of man, for the vision shall be at the time of the end. And then further, in the 19th verse, "I will make thee know what shall be in the last end of the indignation, for at the time appointed [to wit, 2300 days] the end shall be." Now in the 26th verse Gabriel says, "the vision of the evening and the morning which was told is true; wherefore shut thou up the vision; for it shall be for many days." And in the last verse, Daniel says he was astonished at the vision, but none understood it. But it had all been explained to him, except two things; these were, when to begin it, and what he was to understand by the 2300 days. For these two important points we must look to the next chapter.

Commence with the 20th verse.—Here Daniel says, "while he was confessing his sins, and the sins of his people Israel, the man Gabriel, whom he had seen in the vision at the beginning, informed him, and talked with him, and said, O Daniel, I am now come forth to give thee skill and understanding." At the beginning of their supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to show thee; therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision." Now if these four last verses are not the

key to open the only two dark parts in the vision, then Gabriel disobeyed the command, and is proved a liar, neither of which will be admitted for a moment. The first of these verses says that seventy weeks are determined upon, to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy. And in the next verse we find the time to commence the seventy weeks, viz., at the going forth of the decree to restore and build Jerusalem. Now we have all we want; we know when to begin the 2300 days, and that they must be taken for years, as it would be impossible to do all those things spoken of in seventy weeks of days, or in about one year and a third. Let us keep in mind that we are looking at Gabriel's explanation of the vision; if we do, we cannot but see that the 2300 days and the seventy weeks begin at one and the same time, and are of the same nature, that is, a day standing for a year. Now look into your large Bible, over Ezra, seventh chapter, where you will find the decree, and you see 457 B. C.; to this added 1843, and you have the 2300, which is the whole vision, or take the 70 weeks, which is 490 years, and subtract it from the 2300, and you have 1810 remaining, which extends from the death of Christ (which, recollect, was to seal the vision) to A. D. 1843. And now as sure as Christ was cut off at the end of 490 years from the going forth of the decree, (which our strongest opponents admit) the vision will run out in 1843, and Christ will come, with all those that sleep in Jesus, and re-animate their bodies, change all his living ones to immortality, burn the bodies of all the living wicked, at the same time the earth and elements are melting, and set up his everlasting kingdom in the then new earth.

And here it is worthy of special notice, that the inspired "determined-upon" seventy weeks, like a great arch, spans the only doubtful spot in our chronology, and places its broad buttress on this side, in the solid clay-bottom of our Anno Domini.—With this admitted truth staring us full in the face, who can, with their eyes and heart open to see and believe the word of God, resist the conclusion that Daniel's vision, wherein he saw the nations broken to pieces and blown away "like the chaff of the summer threshing-floor," and "the judgment sit, and the books opened," and the little horn, that stood up against the Prince of princes, broken without hand," which was shown Daniel to be 2300 years long, 490 of which expired with Christ on the cross, will run out in 1843, and the awful scenes of judgment commence?

Now from what we have seen we learn the following facts, viz., that Daniel had a great outline of this world's history, down to the day of judgment, at three separate times; he is then told by a saint that this vision was 2300 days long; then Gabriel comes, and tells him this vision will include the time of the end; he then tells him the end shall be at the appointed time; then he tells him the vision of the evening and of the morning is true, and commands Daniel to shut it up, for it should be for many days. Gabriel comes again, and tells him he has received orders, and has come to show him and make him understand the vision; and now, in his story about the seventy weeks, he positively shows us when to begin the 2300 days, and that they must be understood years; and as the death of Christ seals up the vision, so we have only to add 490 and 1810 to make out the whole vision, the first number being down to the seal, the last number from the seal down to A. D. 1843.

And now let me ask, are you prepared for this great day? If not, delay not a moment, fly to Jesus, make the Judge your friend; for no man can tell how soon the door of mercy will close. What an awful moment is this! Fourteen months past the sixth trumpet and wo, and "the third wo cometh quick." Fifteen months may finish Daniel's vision, and the fifth kingdom come in all its glory; the very last sands of the 2300 days running out; iniquity is abounding; the love of many has waxed cold; knowledge has increased; the power of the holy people is scattered; many have been purified and made white; the gospel has been published in all the world; the church is in her Laodicean state; Ottoman supremacy is gone; and, of course, the seventh trumpet must be near sounding; perilous times have come; professors are lovers of themselves more than lovers of God. Again, I ask, Are you ready? Are you living for God or for yourself, for heaven or for earth? Will you risk endless torments for a few months earthly pleasure? How can you endure ever lasting burnings? How can you forego everlasting glory? Ministers of Christ, I entreat you to lay aside the books of men, and examine God's book with prayer, and see if these things are not so. Your hearers are watching every word you say upon this subject with intense interest. Many of you have admitted it may come shortly; many more, that Daniel's vision is out in 1843. These I entreat to examine the second, seventh and eighth chapters, and see if they all do not take hold on judgment.

* If an inspired penman had said there had been seventy weeks from the going forth of the commandment to restore and build Jerusalem to the cutting off of the Messiah, who would dispute it? But by no means. It was exactly fulfilled.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

We have continued reason to express our profound gratitude to the great Creator of all things for numberless benefits conferred upon us as a people. Blessed with genial seasons, the husbandman has his garners filled with abundance, and the necessities of life, not to speak of its luxuries, abound in every direction. While in some other nations steady and industrious labor can hardly find the means of subsistence, the greatest evil which we have to encounter is a surplus of production beyond the home demand, which seeks, and with difficulty finds, a partial market in other regions. The health of the country, with partial exceptions, has for the past year been well preserved; and under their free and wise institutions, the United States are rapidly advancing towards the consummation of the high destiny which an overruling Providence seems to have marked out for them. Exempt from domestic convulsion, and at peace with the world, we are left free to consult as to the best means of securing and advancing the happiness of the people. Such are the circumstances under which you now assemble in your respective chambers, and which should lead us to unite in praise and thanksgiving to that great Being who made us, and who preserves us a nation.

I congratulate you, fellow citizens, on the happy change in the aspect of our foreign affairs since my last annual message. Causes of complaint at that time existed between the United States and Great Britain, which, attended by irritating circumstances, threatened seriously the public peace. The difficulty of adjusting amicably the questions at issue between the two countries, was in no small degree augmented by the lapse of time since they had their origin. The opinions entertained by the Executive on several of the leading topics in dispute, were frankly set forth in the Message at your late session. The appointment of a special minister by Great Britain to the United States, with power to negotiate upon most of the points of difference, indicated a desire on her part, amicably to adjust them, and that minister was met by the Executive in the same spirit which had dictated his mission. The treaty consequent thereon, having been duly ratified by the two governments, a copy, together with the correspondence which accompanied it, is herewith communicated. I trust that whilst you may see in it nothing objectionable, it may be the means of preserving, for an indefinite period, the amicable relations happily existing between the two governments. The question of peace or war between the United States and Great Britain, is a question of the deepest interest not only to ourselves, but to the civilized world, since it scarcely possible that a war could exist between them without endangering the peace of Christendom. The immediate effect of the Treaty upon ourselves will be felt in the security afforded to mercantile enterprise, which, no longer apprehensive of interruptions, adventure its speculations in the most distant seas; and, freighted with the diversified productions of every land, returns to bless our own.

There is nothing in the Treaty which in the slightest degree, compromises the honor or dignity of either nation. Next to the settlement of the boundary line, which must always be a matter of difficulty between States as between individuals, the question which seemed to threaten the greatest embarrassment, was that connected with the African slave trade.

By the 10th article of the Treaty of Ghent it was expressly declared that

"whereas the traffic in slaves is irreconcilable with the principles of humanity and justice; and whereas, both His Majesty and the United States are desirous of continuing their efforts to promote its entire abolition, it is hereby agreed that both the contracting parties shall use their best endeavors to accomplish so desirable an object." In the enforcement of the laws and treaty stipulations of Great Britain, a practice had threatened to grow up on the part of its cruisers, of subjecting to visitation ships sailing under the American flag, which, while it seriously involved our maritime rights, would subject to vexation a branch of our trade which was daily increasing, and which required the fostering care of the Government. And although Lord Aberdeen, in his correspondence with the American Envoys at London, expressly disclaimed all right of an American ship on the high seas, even if found with a cargo of slaves on board, and restricted the British pretension to a mere claim to visit and inquire, yet it could not well be discerned by the Executive of the United States, how such visit and inquiry could be made without detention on the voyage, and consequent interruption to the trade. It was regarded as the right of search, presented only in a new form, and expressed in different words; and I therefore felt it to be my duty distinctly to declare, in my annual message to Congress, that no such concession could be made, and that the United States had both the will and the ability to enforce their own laws, and to protect their flag from being used for purposes wholly forbidden by those laws, and obnoxious to the moral censure of the world.

Taking the message as his letter of instructions, our then Minister to Paris felt himself required to assume the same ground in a remonstrance which he felt it to be his duty to present to M. Guizot, and through him to the King of the French, against what has been called the Quintuple treaty; and his conduct, in this respect, met with the approval of this Government. In close conformity with these views, the eighth article of the Treaty was framed, which provides that "each nation shall keep aloof in the African seas a force not less than eighty guns, to act separately and apart, under instructions from their respective Governments, and for the enforcement of their respective laws and obligations." From this it will be seen, that the ground assumed in the Message has been fully maintained, at the same time that the stipulations of the Treaty of Ghent are to be carried out in good faith by the two countries, and that all pretence is removed for interference with our commerce for any purpose whatever by a foreign Government. While, therefore, the United States have been standing up for the freedom of the seas, they have not thought proper to make that a pretext for avoiding a fulfillment of their Treaty stipulations, or a ground for giving countenance to a trade reprobated by our laws. A similar arrangement by the other great powers, could not fail to sweep from the ocean the slave trade, without the interpolation of any new principle into the maritime code. We may be permitted to hope, that the example thus set, will be followed by some, or not all of them. We thereby also afford suitable protection to the fair trader in those seas, thus fulfilling at the same time the dictates of a sound policy, and complying with the claims of justice and humanity.

It would have furnished additional cause for congratulation, if the Treaty could have embraced all subjects calculated in future to lead to a misunderstanding between the two Governments. The territory of the U. States, commonly called the Oregon territory, lying on the Pacific ocean, of the 42d degree of latitude, to a portion of which Great Britain lays claim, begins to attract the attention of our fellow citizens, and the tide of population which has reclaimed what was so lately an unbroken wilderness, in more contiguous regions, is preparing to flow over those vast districts which stretch from the Rocky mountains to the Pacific ocean. In advance of the acquirement of individual rights to these lands, sound policy dictates that every effort should be resorted to by the two Governments, to settle their respective claims. It became manifest at an early hour of the late negotiations, that any attempt for the time being satisfactorily to determine those rights, would lead to a protracted discussion, which might embrace in its failure other more pressing matters, and the Executive did not regard it as proper to waive all the advantages of an honorable adjustment of other difficulties of great magnitude and importance, because this, not so immediately pressing, stood in the way. Although the difficulty referred to may not for several years to come involve the peace of the two countries, yet I shall not delay to urge on Great Bri-

tain the importance of its early settlement. Nor will other matters of commercial importance to the two countries be overlooked; and I have good reason to believe that it will comport with the policy of England, as it does with that of the United States, to seize upon this moment, when most of the causes of irritation have passed away, to cement the peace and unity of the two countries by wisely removing all grounds of probable future collision.

With the other powers of Europe our relations continue on the most amicable footing. Treaties now existing with them should be rigidly observed, and every opportunity, compatible with the interests of the U. States, should be seized upon to enlarge the basis of commercial intercourse. Peace with all the world is the true foundation of our policy, which can only be rendered permanent by the practice of equal and impartial justice to all. Our great desire should be to enter only into that rivalry which looks to the general good, in the cultivation of the sciences, the enlargement of the field for the exercise of the mechanical arts, and the spread of commerce—the great civilization—to every land and sea. Carefully abstaining from interference in all questions exclusively referring themselves to the political interests of Europe, we may be permitted to hope an equal exemption from the interference of European Governments, in what relates to the States of the American Continent.

On the 23d of April last, the commissioners on the part of the United States, under the convention with the Mexican Republic, of the 11th of April, 1839, made to the proper department a final report in relation to the proceedings of the commission. From this it appears that the total amount awarded to the claimants by the commissioners and the umpire appointed under that convention, was two millions twenty-six thousand seventy-nine dollars and sixty-eight cents. The arbiter having considered that his functions were required by the convention to terminate at the same time with those of the commissioners, returned to the Board, undecided for want of time, claims which had been allowed by the American Commissioners, to the amount of nine hundred and twenty-eight thousand six hundred and twenty dollars and eighty-eight cents.—Other claims, in which the amount sought to be recovered was three millions three hundred and thirty-six thousand eight hundred and thirty-seven dollars and five cents, were submitted to the board too late for its consideration. The Minister of the United States at Mexico, has been duly authorized to make demand for the payment of the awards according to the terms of the convention, and the provisions of the act of Congress of the 12th of June, 1840.—He has also been instructed to communicate to that government the expectations of the Government of the United States in relation to those claims which were not disposed of according to the provisions of the convention, and all others of citizens of the United States against the Mexican Government.

He has also been furnished with other instructions, to be followed by him in case the Government of Mexico should not find itself in a condition to make present payment of the amount of the awards, in specie or its equivalent.

I am happy to be able to say that information, which is esteemed favorable, both to a just satisfaction of the awards, and a reasonable provision for other claims, has been recently received from Mr. Thompson, the Minister of the United States, who has promptly and efficiently executed the instructions of his Government, in regard to this important subject.

The citizens of the United States who accompanied the late Texan expedition to Santa Fe, and who were wrongfully taken and held as prisoners of war in Mexico, have all been liberated.

A correspondence has taken place between the Department of State and the Mexican Minister of Foreign Affairs, upon the complaint of Mexico that citizen of the United States were permitted to give aid to the inhabitants of Texas in the war existing between her and that Republic. Copies of this correspondence are herewith communicated to Congress, together with copies of letters on the same subject, addressed to the